



Light Rail Update

LINE SECTION 5

NOVEMBER 2005

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

The contractor for Line Section 5 (LS-5), Sundt Stacy Witbeck Joint Venture (SSWJV) have been removing the existing ballast railroad track along stretches of the Union Pacific Railroad in Tempe to make way for embedded light rail track, as well as clearing and prepping the area for future construction work. The displaced existing track has been transported to the Arizona Railway Museum in Chandler. Impacts to vehicular and pedestrian traffic have been kept to a minimum during this busy fall season in Tempe.

SSWJV is working on the installation of a new storm drainage system. Construction is currently underway along the southern foot of A-Mountain/Hayden Butte, between Sixth Street and University Drive along Veterans Way, and along Terrace Road.

During the upcoming months, SSWJV will be busy with the construction of retaining walls, completing storm drains, and progressing with roadway widening along the light rail route.

UTILITY RELOCATION

Private utility relocation work by APS, COX, QWEST, and Southwest Gas is under way in LS-5 and is estimated to continue through next year. SRP-Water is beginning work on the installation of an irrigation line. For more information on utility relocation in Tempe, contact Carla Reid, and in Mesa contact Erin Seibel.

Please visit www.valleymetro.org/rail and click on the construction icon for updated information on utility work that affects lane restrictions.



LS-5 CONSTRUCTION KICK-OFF MEETING AND CELEBRATION

The LS-5 construction kick-off meeting held on Sept. 28 at the Escalante Center in Tempe provided an opportunity for business owners and residents adja-

Light Rail Project CONTACT INFORMATION

Line Section 5 Community Outreach Area Coordinators

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cent to the route to learn more about light rail construction in their area, LS-5 construction schedule and SSWJV's community outreach plan.

On Oct. 11 city of Tempe and Mesa officials, along with Valley Metro staff, welcomed approximately 75 community members to the Tempe Thomas J. Pappas Regional Elementary School to take part in the Tempe/Mesa METRO Construction Kick-off Celebration. The event, which included free refreshments and entertainment, was an opportunity to celebrate the start of construction on LS-5.

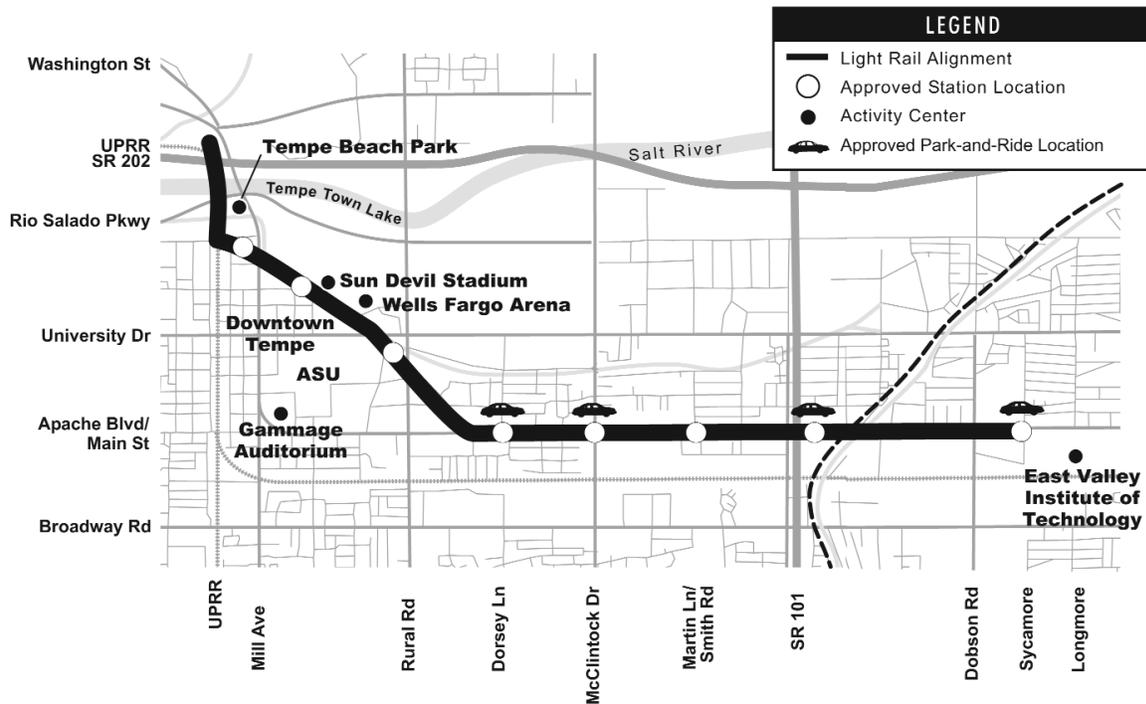
MOCK-UP VEHICLE EVENTS

Valley residents will have their first opportunity to view a replica light rail vehicle this fall and throughout the holiday season at several METRO Expo vehicle events. The mock-up vehicle will provide the "experience" of an operational METRO car, including an opportunity to tour the inside of the vehicle. For tour schedule please visit www.valleymetro.org/rail.

COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARDS

A key component of Valley Metro Rail's Construction Outreach Plan for the METRO Light Rail Transit Project is the formation of Community Advisory Boards (CABs). The LS-5 Community Advisory

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Board is one of five separate CABs that will serve as the voice of the community during light rail construction. The CAB is composed of residents and business representatives adjacent to the light rail route from the communities of Tempe and Mesa.

The LS-5 CAB held its first meeting on Oct. 12 to review and discuss CAB meeting format and activities, which will lead to the evaluation of the performance of the contractor as it relates to minimizing impacts to the community. The LS-5 CAB will identify and reward contractor performance that is above and beyond what is required by the contract documents.

The LS-5 CAB meetings, which are open to the public, take place on the second Thursday of each month at the Holiday Inn located at 915 E. Apache in Tempe. For more information about this program, please contact Joe Cosgrove at 602-793-8586, or by email at jcosgrove@valleymetro.org.

CONSTRUCTION SIGNAGE PROGRAM

Valley Metro Rail has implemented the construction signage program in areas along the line section where construction has begun. The program provides businesses with a complimentary sign or banner advertising their business during light rail construction. The intent of this program is to let the public know that

businesses are open during construction of METRO Rail and to provide patrons with directional information about parking and alternative access into the business. For more information about this program, please contact Erin Seibel at 602-495-8213, or by email at eseibel@valleymetro.org.

HOW CAN I KEEP INFORMED ABOUT THE CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE?

The contractor will provide detailed construction schedules at future public meetings to be held periodically throughout the duration of the project. Notification of these meetings will be provided to the community and businesses along the route. Information and meeting details may also be obtained at www.valleymetro.org/rail/meetingevents.

Construction information can also be obtained at www.valleymetro.org by clicking on the yellow “Construction” icon. Please contact the LS-5 Community Outreach Coordinators to obtain updates on the construction schedule and/or provide answers to questions/concerns.